"Happy and Healthy Chickens" photo contest winners announced

Winners' photos are available for viewing at Flickr.

DOVER — The Delaware Department of Agriculture has announced the winners of its 2016 Happy and Healthy Chickens Photo Contest, celebrating the best snapshots of Delaware backyard poultry flocks. The winner, chosen from a field of nearly 100 photographs, was Weston Williams, 11, of Felton, for his photo "Proud Stance."

"The creativity of expression that was evident in each photo really demonstrated how Delawareans care for their backyard chickens," said Stacey Hofmann, contest organizer. "The response to the contest was phenomenal, and we appreciate all the entries."

Winners in each age category were:

5-7 years old — Elvira Grant, Viola — "A Boy and His Chickens" 8-10 years old — Anna Kucharik, Lewes — "Pepper's Pleasure" 11-14 years old — Weston Williams, Felton — "Proud Stance" 15-21 years old — Halley Poe, New Castle — "Chicken Thieves" 22 years and older — Susan Haas, Millsboro — "Partners in Crime"

The winners in each age category received a poultry-related prize pack including books, clothing, and cooking items. Their photographs will be published in DDA's #FarmFriday social media series. Judges looked for photographs that best exemplified the contest theme, "Happy and Healthy Chickens." Judges also looked at technical criteria including resolution, clarity, and composition.

The top photo by Williams, depicting a lavender Orpington

rooster proudly standing in front of a barn, will be published in the 2017 Delaware Agriculture Calendar, to be published later this fall. Williams is an accomplished young photographer who has been involved in the 4-H photography project for several years.

###

Contact: Stacey Hofmann, 302-698-4542, Stacey.Hofmann@delaware.gov